AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 29, of the specification as filed with the following rewritten paragraph:

The mass storage devices typically include ~~fast-access-time mass storage devices~~ one or more disks.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 15, of the specification as filed with the following rewritten paragraph:

The mass storage devices typically include ~~fast-access-time mass storage devices~~ one or more disks.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 33, of the specification as filed with the following rewritten paragraph:

The mass storage devices may include ~~fast-access-time mass storage devices~~ one or more disks.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 18, of the specification as filed with the following rewritten paragraph:

The mass storage devices may include ~~fast-access-time mass storage devices~~ one or more disks.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 2, of the specification as filed with the following rewritten paragraph:

Reference is now made to FIG. 1, which is a schematic block diagram of a storage system 10, according to an embodiment of the present invention. System 10 acts as a data memory for one or more host processors 52, which are coupled to the storage system by any means known in the art, for example, via a network such as the Internet or by a bus. Herein, by way of example, hosts 52 and system 10 are assumed to be coupled by a network 50. The data stored within system 10 is stored at logical addresses (LAs) in one or more ~~slow and/or fast access time~~ mass storage devices, hereinbelow assumed to be one or more disks 12, by way of example. LAs for system 10 are typically grouped into logical units (LUNs) and both LAs and LUNs are allocated by a system manager 54, which also acts as a control unit for the system. System manager 54 is typically implemented as one or more manager processing units 57, which may be incorporated into disks 12, and/or elements of system 10 described hereinbelow. When implemented as multiple units 57, the units typically control system 10 using a distributed algorithm operated in a cooperative manner.